

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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ACTION SS-15

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FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5871

C O N F I D E N T I A L JIDDA 6250

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PLOS, SA

SUBJ: LETTER TO THE SECRETARY FROM PRINCE SAUD

1. EMBASSY RECEIVED TODAY SEPTEMBER 15 FOLLOWING LETTER TO THE SECRETARY FROM PRINCE SAUD DATED SEPTEMBER 13, 1976. BEGIN TEXT:

"HIS EXCELLENCY, DR HENRY KISSINGER, SECRETARY OF STATE. EXCELLENCY:

IT WAS A PLEASURE TO RECEIVE YOUR EXCELLENCY'S LETTER CONCERNING THE FIFTH SESSION OF THE THIRD CONFERENCE ON LAW OF THE SEA CONVENING IN NEW YORK, WHICH NOTED THE IMPORTANCE OF DEBATES AT THESE MEETINGS AND EFFORTS EXERTED BY THE US GOVERNMENT TO RENDER THIS SESSION SUCCESSFUL, IN FULFILLMENT OF HOPES ENTERTAINED BY PEOPLES OF THE EARTH, AND IN A MANNER WHICH SAFEGUARDS FOR THE ENTIRE STATES OF THE WORLD THEIR VITAL INTERESTS IN THIS PART OF OUR EARTHLY PLANET, BASED ON JUSTICE AND EQUITY.

AS YOUR EXCELLENCY NOTED, DESPITE WHAT SEEMS TO BE A CLOSE ACCORD ON CERTAIN SIGNIFICANT SUBJECTS BROUGHT UP FOR DISCUSSION, FOR EXAMPLE, PASSAGE THROUGH STRAITS, WIDTH OF TERRITORIAL SEA, AND RIGHTS OF COASTAL STATES WITH REGARD TO THE REGION'S ECONOMIC RESOURCES, AS YOU STATED THERE CONTINUES TO BE A NUMBER OF ISSUES WHICH MUST BE GIVEN GREATER CARE SO THAT AGREEMENT ON THEM MAY BE REACHED, SUCH AS THE EXPLOITATION OF MINERAL WEALTH IN THE INTERNATIONAL AREA, THE DEVISING OF A FORMULA FOR DEMARCATING THE CONTINENTAL SHELF BEYOND THE 200-MILE LIMIT, THE ORGANIZATION OR SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH IN THE ECONOMIC AREA, THE PROTECTION OF THE SEA ENVIRONMENT FROM POLLUTION, AND THE SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES ON THE LAW OF THE SEA.

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IT GIVES ME PLEASURE ON THIS OCCASION TO ASSURE YOU

THAT SAUDI ARABIA'S VIEWPOINT CONCURS WITH THAT OF THE
US GOVERNMENT AS SET FORTH IN YOUR LETTER WITH REGARD
TO THE ORGANIZED EXPLOITATION OF MINERAL WEALTH IN THE INTER-
NATIONAL AREA, THE NEED FOR A FORMULA TO DEMARCATHE THE
CONTINENTAL SHELF BEYOND THE 200-MILE LIMIT AND THE
SYSTEM OF ITS EXPLOITATION, THE ORGANIZATION OF SCIENTIFIC
RESEARCH IN THE ECONOMIC AREA, AND THE IMPERATIVE PROTECTION
OF THE SEA ENVIRONMENT FROM POLLUTION. AS FOR YOUR
EXCELLENCY'S SUGGESTION TO ESTABLISH COMPULSORY ARBITRATION
FOR THE SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES ON THE LAW OF THE SEA, THE
SAUDI ARABIAN GOVERNMENT PREFERS TO ADOPT OPTIONAL SETTLE-
MENT AT THIS DEVELOPMENTAL STAGE OF INTERNATIONAL LAW.
I SHARE YOUR HOPE THAT THE CONFEREES WILL BE ABLE
TO REACH CONSENSUS ON ORGANIZED RELATIONS AMONG WORLD STATES
IN THIS FIELD, ONE WHICH REFLECTS THEIR READINESS FOR COOP-
ERATION TO ACHIEVE THEIR CHERISHED ASPIRATIONS THROUGH THE
PRINCIPLES OF LOVE, PEACE, AND BROTHERHOOD.
I LOOK FORWARD TO MEETING WITH YOU IN MID-SEPTEMBER IN
THE CAPITAL OF YOUR FRIENDLY COUNTRY.
PLEASE ACCEPT MY SINCERE REGARDS AND HIGHEST ESTEEM.

SAUD AL-FAISAL
MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
END TEXT.

2. ORIGINAL BEING POUCHED TO NEA/ARP.
HORAN

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NNN

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